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How Ernest Plyler Lost His Life--Shot to Death in Pistol Duel in Oklahoma.

We have received the following account, taken from an Oklahoma paper, of the killing at Ardmore, Okla., on the 3d instant, of Ernest Plyler, son of Mr. Joseph Plyler, of this county, as published in The News of the 5th:

Ernest Plyler, driver for the fire department, lies dead at Bridgeman's undertaking rooms with a bullet hole through his right breast and Joseph Roberson, also a member of the fire department is in the county jail charged with the killing and having as a result of the bloody encounter a bullet wound in the right thigh.

The shooting occurred last night at eight o'clock in the doorway of the fire station and was precipitated by the fact that Roberson believed that some one of the fire boys was "knocking" him.

Shortly before eight o'clock, Roberson, who it is claimed had been drinking, came to the station and made the remark to boys sitting around that he thought some one was "knocking" him. He continued to talk in this strain for a little while, when Plyler, who was sitting close by, asked if the insinuations were meant for him.

According to Chief Slaughter, he said Roberson said he meant it for anyone that it seemed to fit. After a few more sharp words the two men came to blows. Chief Slaughter separated them and Roberson made the remark to the boys that he would go get a gun "and smoke the whole crowd up."

Chief Slaughter, thinking that some further trouble might result, asked Officer Dutton if he would stay around for a while and keep an eye out for any thing that might happen. Roberson did not come back right away and those who were there, together with the officer, thought the affair had blown over.

About twenty minutes later Mr. Slaughter says that while out in front he saw Roberson coming up the street from the direction of his home and noticed that when in front of the blacksmith shop sixty or seventy feet away, that he had his hand in his pocket. Plyler, who was sitting on the outside, saw him coming also and left his seat and went inside the station. Roberson had by this time gotten to the doorway and began shooting. Plyler ran towards the little office of the chief in the corner of the station and also shot at Roberson.

Chief Slaughter got to Plyler as he was standing by the desk in his office and asked him if he was hurt. Plyler replied "Yes, I am killed, I am dying" and with those words sank to the floor.

Robison, who was accompanied by his brother, turned and ran through the livery stable a door or two away and to his home in the next block, where he was arrested, and after being attended by Drs. Bogie and Booth, who dressed a bullet wound in his right side, was removed to the county jail. Deputy West said that he was still under the influence of liquor when taken to jail.

Plyler was shot through the right breast and only lived a few minutes. Chief Slaughter and

the other members of the department say that it was between fifteen and twenty minutes after the first fight that Robison returned to the station. It was learned that he went to a gunsmith's store for the purpose of getting another weapon, but did not get it.

Robison was seen by a Democrat reporter immediately after the doctors had finished dressing his wound and asked if he cared to make a statement. He looked bewildered and said "Oh, don't say anything about it."

On being told that the affair would be published and asked if he cared to tell how it happened he said, "Just say it was an accident."

"Is that all?" was asked him. "Yes, that is all I will say now. I won't say anything else now."

Ernest Plyler was a young man, unmarried and about twenty-five years old. His folks live in South Carolina and he has a brother in Southern Texas, whom he visited for the first time in fifteen years last month. He has been a member of the department for about a year.

"Joe" Robison is a son of John A. Robison, the gunsmith who lives at 14, first avenue southwest. He is married and for the past three years has been a member of the fire department.

It is said that Will Roberson was with his brother on both visits to the station and is being held in custody by the county officers. Just what the charge against him will be is not known at this time.

Chief Slaughter said that he thought there were as many as five shots fired and when Roberson first began shooting he thought he was trying to scare Plyler, but on the second shot he drew a level aim and fired pointblank. It is said that Plyler secured a revolver that had been lying around the station for some time, but when found it was on the floor of the little office several feet away, where it had been dropped. The guns of both were examined and showed three exploded shells in each.

The guns were of thirty-eight calibre.

As soon as the shooting became known a great crowd formed around the fire station and it was with difficulty that the physicians and newspaper men could make their way through and Chief Slaughter had to have the place cleared several times. Plyler's body was removed to the undertaking parlors and relatives of the dead man were communicated with. No preparations have been made for the funeral as yet but it was thought last night that the remains would be shipped to his brother in Texas, where they will be buried.

Why There Was No Preaching at the Six Mile Church Sunday -- Services Next Sabbath.

Editor of Lancaster News:

Please allow me to apologize to the congregation who assembled at Six Mile Presbyterian church last Sabbath. Circumstances were such that I could neither come nor 'phone them that I would not.

There will be communion services next Sabbath morning, Aug. 23, at 11 o'clock. The public is cordially invited. I will try and be on hand at that time.

Respectfully,
J. L. McKinstry, Pastor.
Waxhaw, N. C.

THE REUNION AT DIXIE.

Largest Gathering in History of the County--A Day of Unalloyed Pleasure.

What is estimated by many as the largest crowd ever assembled in Lancaster county was the gathering at Dixie last Friday, the occasion being the annual reunion of the Confederate veterans of Lancaster. Old soldiers, accustomed to sizing crowds, say that fully five thousand persons were present. Perfect order was observed throughout the day--no drinking nor disturbances of any kind. In addition to the veterans and their families, the Juniors and Woodmen, as well as many others participated in the pleasures of the occasion. The veterans, when formed in line, numbered about 85.

Mr. W. G. A. Porter, the gallant commander of Camp Dixie, presided over the big meeting, which was opened with prayer by the Rev. E. M. McKissick, pastor of East Lancaster circuit. An address of welcome was then delivered by Commander Porter, followed by some fine music by the "old soldiers' convention." A splendid address was made by the Hon. M. J. Hough, of Landford, who eloquently and forcefully emphasized the vital importance of teaching the youth of the country the true principles for which their fathers and grandfathers fought.

Capt Hough's speech concluded the exercises by the veterans. A capital address was then made on behalf of the Woodmen by the Rev. R. T. Blackmon, followed by a highly entertaining and instructive one by the Rev. T. A. Dabney, on behalf of the Junior Order; after which a recess was taken for dinner. Notwithstanding the large number present, there was an abundance of good things to eat for all.

In the afternoon addresses were made by the three candidates for congress, Messrs. Finley, Butler and Polluck, each speaking 30 minutes.

Lancaster Lady Bitten by a Venomous Reptile.

Mrs. McManus, wife of Dr. R. C. McManus, was severely bitten on the foot by a poisonous snake Monday afternoon. Hearing a commotion among her birds in the yard, she ran out to investigate the cause. In walking through the weeds, the reptile, which she did not see, suddenly thrust its fangs into her foot, making two wounds. With rare presence of mind Mrs. McManus hurriedly reentered the house and heroically enlarged the wounds with a hat pin, causing them to discharge a considerable quantity of green, poisonous matter, as well as blood into a basin of water in which she had placed her foot.

Dr. McManus was quickly summoned, and upon his arrival administered antidotes for the poison. The wounded member swelled rapidly and Mrs. McManus suffered much pain all of Monday night, but the swelling had greatly subsided by yesterday morning and the unfortunate lady was resting easier. It is thought that she will be all right again in a day or two.

Fire broke out in the transformer house of the Neely mill at Yorkville Sunday afternoon, causing damage of several thousand dollars. It is said that a bolt of lightning caused the fire. Rock Hill Record.

Rev. W. C. Ewart Dead--Passed Away at His Home in Yorkville Monday Night.

The many friends here and throughout the county, as well as elsewhere, of the Rev. William Cameron Ewart will be shocked and grieved to hear of his death, which occurred at his home in Yorkville Monday night about 11 o'clock. He was stricken with gastritis and heart trouble a few days ago at Northfield, Mass., where he had gone to spend his summer vacation. He immediately started home, reaching Yorkville Friday afternoon. He was met at Gastonia by Mrs. Ewart and the family physician. The burial was in Yorkville yesterday afternoon at 5 o'clock.

For eleven years Mr. Ewart was the beloved pastor of the Shiloh A. R. P. church in this county, and for six years of that period was also pastor of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian church of Lancaster, making his residence here. About five years ago he accepted a call to Abbeville, removing from there to Yorkville in January, 1904, to accept the pastorate of the A. R. P. church at that place.

Mr. Ewart was a native of Huntersville, N. C., and was born Sept. 19, 1864. He was a graduate of Due West College and Theological Seminary. He was twice married. His first wife, who was Miss Lucy Reed, of Abbeville county, died during his pastorate here. His second wife was Miss Alice Ross, daughter of the Rev. Dr. R. A. Ross of York, who survives him, with four children by the first marriage.

Mr. Ewart was an able, effective preacher and a man of strong personal magnetism. He endeared himself to all of his congregation, as well as to the public generally, regardless of denominational lines. Many, very many homes will be deeply saddened by the untimely passing away of this upright, godly man.

Joe Lance Gets Nine Years for Killing Little Girl.

Joseph Lance, who is said to be one of the two young North Carolinians who were implicated in the killing of an old colored man named Hood in this county some two or three years ago, was on last Saturday sentenced at Asheville to the penitentiary for a term of nine years for the killing of little Alma Green in December last, at Buena Vista, N. C., having been recently tried for the offence and convicted of manslaughter. An Asheville dispatch concerning the trial gives the following account of the tragedy.

The killing of little Alma Green, a child probably 15 years of age, occurred at the bend just beyond Buena Vista. The little girl with her brother had gone to the embankment to watch the train pass, and to wave at the engineer, a friend of the child. As the train passed a shot was fired from one of the cars and the little girl fell mortally wounded, in a few minutes calling for her mother. Lance was arrested by the trainmen charged with firing the shot. There was intense feeling at the time and threats of violence. The prisoner was brought here and lodged in jail and subsequently indicted by a grand jury. The case was continued from two courts and finally set for hearing before

Judge Ward. Lance is a most attractive young fellow and when not drinking is pleasing company, quiet and peaceable. With whiskey in him he is dangerous. It is alleged that he was drinking at the time of the tragedy, and after firing the shot declared that "I am a mean man," according to one of the witnesses. The trial attracted great crowds while interest was intense.

Mr. B. C. Hough's Handsome Jewelry Establishment--Will Move Into His New Quarters Today.

Mr. B. C. Hough, the well known jeweler, not content with his present nice quarters in the Springs block, which his business has really outgrown, is now arranging to have one of the handsomest establishments of the kind in the State. Having leased the large and spacious store room in the new Mackey building, next door to the First National Bank, Mr. Hough had a force of hands busy yesterday cleaning up the windows, floors, etc., and placing in position some large and elegant glass front showcases which he has just received from the manufacturers. All the equipment and furnishings are up-to-date in every particular. Today Mr. Hough will move his stock into the new quarters, and just as soon as he gets things settled, he will go north to buy a larger and better stock than he has ever handled.

The Union County, N. C., Election--Second Primary Necessary.

Monroe special in Monday's Charlotte Observer: The count of the ballots cast in the Democratic primaries yesterday was so slow that nothing definite as to the result could be obtained until after 2 o'clock this morning. With three precincts yet to be heard from, it is pretty well assured that a second primary will be necessary for all the county offices except those of county commissioner and recorder. As Recorder Stevens had no one running against him, he was, of course, reelected; but the vote for recorder was very light, a number not voting on that office at all. The following candidates will run in the second primary: For sheriff, John Griffith and Thomas C. Lee; for treasurer, G. M. Laney and J. H. Williams; for register of deeds, J. Ed Stewart and Bright Griffin. For Representatives it looks now as if there would be a second primary with Messrs. McNeely, Lemmond, Houston and Price in the race, though there is a possibility of the first two being nominated in the first primary when the three missing precincts are heard from.

Mr. E. V. Catoe, who lives on the Poag place north of Lancaster, was badly hurt in an accident coming from the Dixie picnic last Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Stoney Drake moved Monday from Mrs. M. J. Perry's place on Chesterfield avenue into the Crawford house on Dunlap street lately vacated by Col. A. R. Banks and family.

Miss Pearl Hunter is visiting the family of Mr. Crawford Belk at Fort Mill.

Miss Clara Barrett Strait is visiting friends in Rock Hill.

Cashier Manly Croxton, of the First National Bank, is spending a while at Piedmont Springs. He was accompanied there by Mrs. Croxton, who returned home Monday.